

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2007 and 2008 SB2907

Introduced 2/15/2008, by Sen. Deanna Demuzio

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/3-14.23

from Ch. 122, par. 3-14.23

Amends the School Code. In provisions concerning the duty of the regional superintendent of schools to conduct courses of instruction for school bus drivers, allows for an increase in fees for providing such courses. Provides that, of the increase in course fees authorized, \$1 shall be deposited into a State Board of Education revolving account specifically dedicated to school bus safety for the conduct of business of the Illinois Pupil Transportation Advisory Committee and the certification and conduct of educational programs and training of Illinois school bus driver instructors.

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FISCAL NOTE ACT MAY APPLY

1 AN ACT concerning education.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

- Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section 3-14.23 as follows:
- 6 (105 ILCS 5/3-14.23) (from Ch. 122, par. 3-14.23)
- 7 Sec. 3-14.23. School bus driver permits.
- (a) To conduct courses of instruction for school bus 8 9 drivers pursuant to the standards established by the Secretary of State under Section 6-106.1 of the Illinois Vehicle Code and 10 to charge a fee based upon the cost of providing such courses 11 of up to \$6 per person for fiscal years 2009, 2010, and 2011; 12 up to \$8 per person for fiscal years 2012, 2013, and 2014; and 13 14 up to \$10 per person for fiscal year 2015 and each fiscal year thereafter \$4 per person for the initial classroom course in 15 16 school bus driver safety and of up to \$6 per person for fiscal 17 years 2009, 2010, and 2011; up to \$8 per person for fiscal years 2012, 2013, and 2014; and up to \$10 per person for fiscal 18 19 year 2015 and each fiscal year thereafter up to \$4 per person 20 for the annual refresher course. Of the increase in course fees 21 authorized under this amendatory Act of the 95th General 22 Assembly, \$1 shall be deposited into a State Board of Education revolving account specifically dedicated to school bus safety 23

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- for the conduct of business of the Illinois Pupil Transportation Advisory Committee and the certification and conduct of educational programs and training of Illinois school bus driver instructors The State Board of Education shall annually request such additional appropriation as may be necessary to ensure that adequate and sufficient training is provided to all school bus drivers in Illinois. This appropriation shall be used to supplement, not supplant, programs conducted using fees received from applicants for school bus driver permits.
- (b) To conduct such investigations as may be necessary to insure that all persons hired to operate school buses have valid school bus driver permits as required under Sections 6-104 and 6-106.1 of "The Illinois Vehicle Code". If a regional superintendent finds evidence of non-compliance with this requirement, he shall submit such evidence together with his recommendations in writing to the school board.

Ιf regional superintendent finds the evidence noncompliance with the requirement that all persons employed directly by the school board to operate school buses have valid school bus driver permits as required under Sections 6-104 and 6-106.1 of "The Illinois Vehicle Code", the superintendent shall schedule a hearing on a date not less than 5 days nor more than 10 days after notifying the district of his findings. If based on the evidence presented at the hearing the regional superintendent finds that persons

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directly by the school board to operate school buses do not have valid school bus driver permits as required under Sections 6-104 and 6-106.1 of "The Illinois Vehicle Code", the regional superintendent shall submit such evidence and his findings together with his recommendations to the State Superintendent of Education. The State Superintendent of Education may reduce the district's claim for reimbursement under Sections 29-5 and 14-13.01 for transportation by 1.136% for each day of noncompliance.

If a school board finds evidence of noncompliance with the requirement that all persons employed by a contractor to operate school buses have valid school bus driver permits as required under Sections 6-104 and 6-106.1 of "The Illinois Vehicle Code", the school board shall request a hearing before the regional superintendent. The regional superintendent shall schedule a hearing on a date not less than 5 days nor more than 10 days after receiving the request. If based on the evidence presented at the hearing the regional superintendent finds that persons employed by a contractor to operate school buses do not have valid school bus driver permits as required under Sections 6-104 and 6-106.1 of "The Illinois Vehicle Code", the school board's financial obligations under the contract shall be reduced by an amount equal to 1.136% for each day of noncompliance. The findings of the regional superintendent and the relief provided herein shall not impair the obligations of the contractor to continue to provide transportation services

- in accordance with the terms of the contract.
- 2 The provisions of the Administrative Review Law, and all
- 3 amendments and modifications thereof and the rules adopted
- 4 pursuant thereto shall apply to and govern all proceedings
- 5 instituted for judicial review of final administrative
- 6 decisions of the regional superintendent under this Section.
- 7 (Source: P.A. 90-811, eff. 1-26-99.)